

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063213

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: OAS WRAP-UP 3/76

REFERENCES: (A) STATE 038711 (B) STATE 027067

1. CHARTER REFORM. REVISION PROCESS IN PERMANENT COUNCIL HAS SPEEDED UP IN RECENT WEEKS AND TEXT NEARLY COMPLETED THOUGH SIZEABLE GAPS STILL EXIST - E.G., CHAPTERS III (MEMBERSHIP) AND VII (ECONOMIC STANDARDS). DEBATE OVER ARTICLE 8 (PRECLUDING MEMBERSHIP FOR STATES INVOLVED IN FRONTIER DISPUTES WITH CURRENT MEMBERS) HAS PITTED CARIBBEAN STATES AGAINST ARGENTINA/GUATEMALA OVER WHETHER TO RECOMMEND CHANGE. JAMAICA HAS ARGUED THAT ISSUE IS SENSITIVE ONE THAT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO SPECIAL GA FOR DECISION WITHOUT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION; LATIN OPPOSITION CONTENTS LACK OF CONSENSUS FOR AMENDMENT MEANS OLD CHARTER LANGUAGE SHOULD STAND. CHAPTER VII HAS BEEN DEFERRED BY PC UNTIL SUBCOMMITTEE COMPLETES DRAFT TREATY ON COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY. ECONOMIC STANDARDS OF CHARTER WILL THEN BE REWRITTEN TO CONFORM TO DRAFT TREATY.

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2. COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY/COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT.

WORK ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STANDARDS OF CHARTER STILL AWAITS

OUTCOME OF CONSIDERATION OF THE QTE TREATIES UNQTE ON COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT. DISCUSSION OF FORMER NOW CENTERED ON KEY PROVISIONS (ARTICLES 9 AND 12 OF DRAFT TREATY) WHICH DESCRIBE ROLE OF ORGAN OF CONSULTATION IN DENOUNCING VIOLATIONS, PRESCRIBING DAMAGES AND MAKING BINDING DECISIONS. BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA IN PARTICULAR HAVE POINTED OUT THAT IN EFFECT THIS SETS UP A COURT, WITHOUT PROCEDURES TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF ACCUSED. GUATEMALA HAS PROPOSED AMENDED LANGUAGE ESTABLISHING ONLY A FACT FINDING PROCESS WITHOUT LEGAL SANCTIONS. WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED TEN DAYS AGO TO PRODUCE AGREED LANGUAGE HAS THUS FAR FAILED TO MEET. US POLICY OF NOT PARTICIPATING IN DEBATE AND ABSTAINING ON VOTES APPEARS TO HAVE FORCED OTHERS TO ABANDON QTE SOLIDARITY. UNQTE WHILE AWAITING RESULTS OF THE WORKING GROUP EFFORT, CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY ON COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT WAS TO PROCEED. THIS TOPIC ALSO FAILED TO DRAW A QUORUM LAST WEEK, AND DESULTORY PROGRESS ON THE COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY TREATY SUGGESTS THAT INTEREST IN BOTH SUBJECTS IS WANING.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS. THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IS CONTINUING TO MEET IN WASHINGTON TO COMPLETE WORK ON ITS REPORT ON CHILE. THE REPORT IS LIKELY TO BE READY NEXT WEEK FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE GOC FOR ITS COMMENTS. PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE THAT REPORT WILL NOTE SOME PROGRESS BUT WILL STILL CITE CHILE FOR FREQUENT USE OF TORTURE. ALL SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE IAHRG ARE UP FOR ELECTION THIS SPRING. AMBASSADOR WOODWARD HAS DECIDED NOT TO STAND FOR REELECTION TO THE IAHRG AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED TO NAME TOM J. FARER, A RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, TO STAND FOR ELECTION TO THAT POSITION WHEN THE OAS PC VOTES IN JUNE (STATE 592231).

4. XIII MFM. MARCH 10 SESSION OF XIII MEETING OF CONSULTATION ON HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR DISPUTE CONCLUDED WITH UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADOPT REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF SEVEN AND CONFIDENTIAL

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RESOLUTION CALLING FOR CONTINUATION OF MANDATE FOR XIII MFM/COMMITTEE OF SEVEN UNTIL MISSION COMPLETED. (STATE 06134.)

5. THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF IA-ECOSOC (CIES) HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 19.

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